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EDITORIALS.

The New York State College of Forestry.—In April last, the Legislature of New York passed an important Act, authorizing the Trustees of Cornell University “to create and establish a department in said University, to be known as and called the New York State College of Forestry, for the purpose of education and instruction in the principles and practices of scientific forestry.” Provision was also made for the establishment of a demonstration forest of not more than 30,000 acres, in the Adirondacks, which is to be known as the “College forest.” Since the organization of the several agricultural experiment stations on a national basis of support, no public endowment of applied science has at all approached this of the state of New York in prospective usefulness to the public at large.

From an announcement of the new College of Forestry, recently issued, it appears that the annual consumption of wood materials in the United States is estimated at over 20,000,000,000 cubic feet, valued when shaped for use in the arts at not less than \$1,000,000,000. Much of this material is doubtless capable of profitable, even though in the first instance more expensive, replacement by other material; and although many notes of warning have been sounded, and for some years a national forestry association has occupied itself with the formation of public opinion, favorable to a rational administration of our forests, it is probably true to-day that private landowners cannot view investment in forest lands, to be rationally administered, as desirable from a business point of view, partly because of the slowness with which returns are received. But in Europe the necessity of such administration of what is left of the original forests, and of the very large areas that have been planted to take the place of those denuded, has come to be generally understood. Under the management of Professor Fernow, who has been called to its head, the new College of Forestry may be expected to disseminate the best and most practical of information on all matters connected with the subject, and it is probable that long before the expiration of Cornell's thirty years' title to the “College forest,” it will have served as the model for many and larger state and national forest reservations, which will be not only safely preserved but administered for the public benefit.